Creating Hazardous Atmosphere by Bokajan Cement Factory

2008. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bokajan Cement Factory is emitting dust around an area of 10 Kilometres, thus creating hazardous atmosphere for human beings and vegetation

(b) whether the Electro-static Precipitator which was set up to control pollution has stopped working at night; and

(c) if so, what alternative measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c); No survey has been conducted by the Government on the impact of the dust from Bokajan Cement Factory on human health and vegetation. The industry is reported to have submitted a time bound programme to install air pollution control equipment by June, 1992.

Tribals Facing Problems Because of Passage of Wild Life Act

2009. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tribals living in the forest areas are facing a lot of difficulties with the passage of Wild Life Act, 1991;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have been rendered jobless as a result of the enactment; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to protect them and provide employment to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Wildlife habitats in this country have depleted seriously over the years due to unrestricted exploitation of forest produce for meeting the demands of ever growing human population. A provision has been made in the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act that any exploitation in a Sanctuary can be done only if the State Government is satified that this exploitation is in the interest of improvement and better management of the wildlife in the Sanctuary. This would not only help in healing the scars of over-exploitation of fauna and flora in the past and restoring the life-supporting processes of the eco-system, like soil and water conservation, but also be of long range benefit to the local people including tribals.

Certain States have raised an issue regarding the difficulties that may be caused to the tribals on account of this amendment. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is examining the manner in which the difficulties of the tribals can be mitigated without affecting the interests of wildlife conservation.

Assistance from Asian Development Bank for Project

2010. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for 200 million dollar assistance from Asian Development Bank for a project to control industrial pollution in India; and

(b) 'if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Exploratory steps have been initiated to ascertain possibility of assistance from Asian Development Bank in the field of pollution control.